

Prayer of the Church
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 4, 2010

P Father, even the demons are subject to us in Your Son's name. Teach us to rejoice in the greater miracle that our names are written in heaven because of His death and resurrection. Bless all those celebrating baptismal birthdays among us and keep us all firm in the faith, so that we may ever trust Jesus, serve You, and live in the certain hope of eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, teach us to receive Your forgiveness by faith so that we may never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ by which the world has been crucified to us and we to the world. Give us the humility, the courage, and the concern to give and receive admonition for our sins, so that each of us may be restored in a spirit of gentleness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, Your loving mercy once preserved seven thousand in Israel from bowing to Baal. You know how prone we are to bow to the false gods of this world. Preserve us from false worship, dear Father in heaven! Teach us to treasure not the persuasive words of our culture but to hold fast to the wisdom of Christ crucified for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, on this Independence Day, we especially praise You for the blessings of this nation. Teach us never to take for granted the gifts that You give us through our government. Protect and guide our President, our governor, our mayor, and all our elected leaders. Preserve the freedoms that You have granted us. Watch over those who serve in the military and all who travel. Keep every citizen of our country in Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Yet You send out your laborers like lambs in the midst of wolves. Teach Your pastors not to fear, for You are with them. Call into the ministry men who, like Peter, are humbled by their sinfulness but who rejoice at the astonishing catch of souls that You bring in through their preaching. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

[Prayer of the Church]

P Father, You sent your Son to preach and to heal. Continue that preaching and healing work today so that all people may see that the kingdom of God has come near. Grant Your care to all those who need Your help and healing [*especially...*], and show Your mercy to all who mourn [*especially...*]. Provide for each of them as You know to be best. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Father, give to all who come to Your altar this day repentant hearts and a confident trust in Your Son's promise that in His Supper He gives us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By this holy meal, renew us in faith and life so that we may rejoice in Your salvation and live as Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, dear Father, we commend ourselves and all those for whom we pray, trusting in the mercy that You show to us because of Your Son Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

[Prayer of the Church]